

Information Alert 3/14

10 April 2014

Dear Operator

Injuries on Articulated Buses Manufactured in 1980s

ISSUE:

Office of Transport Safety Investigation (OTSI) released technical findings relating to injuries occurring on articulated buses during August and November 2013. The report referred to the examination of the circumstances of these incidents which highlighted the safety issue of older model (1980s) articulated buses presenting a serious risk of leg and foot injuries to passengers travelling in the area on and around the turntable.

Operators with these types of buses should conduct risk assessments to minimise injuries on articulated buses as part of their Safety Management Systems (SMS). Part of the risk assessment should include passenger warning signs and procedures for drivers if they are aware of passengers standing on the turntable.

It is recommended that operators of articulated buses manufactured during the 1980s, become familiar with the OTSI investigation regarding Leg injuries on articulated buses Nowra Coaches 20 August & 26 November 2013 report that can be accessed via the internet at <http://www.otsi.nsw.gov.au/bus/investigations.php>

NOTICE AND REQUIRED ACTIONS:

This notice is to inform operators of the risks involved with turntables on articulated buses manufactured during the 1980s, so that operators can give due consideration to the issues and ensure the OTSI findings have been taken into account in their Safety Management Systems.

Passenger safety is an important factor and should be assessed during the operators risk management process and incorporated in their Safety Management System. The assessment should take active steps to identify and control hazards that could cause harm to passengers.

Operators of these buses must place clearly visible signs to discourage passengers from travelling in the turntable area. The sign should read, 'CAUTION NO STANDING ON TURN TABLE'.

It is recommended operators should ensure that seating near the turntable does not expose any passengers to risks from the movement of the turntable.

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